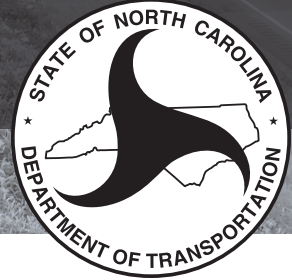


I-85 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: PHASE TWO



Project Description:

- Reconstructing and widening 3.8 miles of I-85 from four lanes to eight lanes from north of N.C. 150 to just north of I-85 Business
- Reconstructing the interchange of I-85 at Belmont Road

Construction Cost: \$65.5 million

Contractor: Balfour Beatty Infrastructure Inc./
Austin Bridge and Road LP, A Joint Venture

Project Completion Date: May 2013

Benefits:

- Easing congestion and improving traffic flow on I-85, the most heavily traveled route between Atlanta and Richmond, Va.
- Extending the lifespan of I-85 by replacing the existing pavement along that section of roadway with new concrete
- Providing a smoother, more comfortable ride for motorists

Interesting Facts:

- Twenty-four hour wrecker service will be available throughout the work zone to enable vehicles that break down in a travel lane or are involved in accidents to be quickly removed from the roadway. This will not only improve safety, but it will also reduce traffic congestion triggered by the incidents.
- The contractor will set up wireless remote cameras along the project area to monitor in real time how traffic is flowing. NCDOT will have

access to the images and use them to help with incident response. For example, if NCDOT sees an accident occur, it can instantly dispatch an Incident Management Assistance Patrol to the scene to help control traffic, and post messages to electronic message boards to warn drivers about travel delays ahead and detour routes.

- To reduce the amount of construction-related traffic on I-85, the contractor plans to build ramps from the Clark Road and Belmont Road bridges onto the I-85 median. Trucks will use these ramps to transport materials. This innovative idea will eliminate about 13,000 truckloads from the interstate.
- The contractor included in the contract self-imposed fines ranging from \$1,000 – \$2,000 per day for missing major project milestones.
- NCDOT required a one-year guarantee on the work done for this project. The contractor added four years to that guarantee, agreeing to stand by its work for five years.
- NCDOT required bidders on the project to complete the project by October 2013. The contractor will complete the project five months earlier than expected.

Staying Connected:

Visit ncdot.gov or follow twitter.com/ncdot_i85 for the latest project updates, information about traffic pattern changes and alerts about construction-related congestion. These tools will help you “*know before you go.*”